



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FWS DIRECTOR CALLS CONFERENCE ON WHOOPING CRANE

An international conference to consider the problems of the whooping crane has been called by John L. Farley, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, for October 29. Notices of the meeting have been sent to more than a score of national, international, and Canadian organizations interested in the conservation of birds and other wildlife.

The meeting will review what is being done for the whooping crane at the present time and then consider recommendations for future activities.

In reviewing present activities, speakers will detail the protection which the Canadian government is giving the crane on the breeding grounds, the protection the American Government is giving the species on the wintering ground and the protection provided along the migration route. Also there will be an explanation of the publicity efforts to enlist popular support for the preservation of the species, which at last count numbered only 27 birds.

The meeting will be held in the Secretary's conference room in the Department of the Interior Building. Director Farley will preside at the meeting and Secretary Fred A. Seaton will welcome the members.

The nesting grounds of the whoopers were discovered about two years ago near Great Slave Lake in Canada and the Canadian government has declared that this area is "off limits" for airplane travel. Appropriate measures have been taken to provide winter sanctuary for the birds on and near Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. But whooping cranes in transit are at the mercy of the people of two nations who have rallied sympathetically to their support.

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